

REMARKS

Claims 6-26 have been canceled; and claims 27-36 have been added herein. Support for new claims 27-36 may be found in, for example, original claims 1-6; Figures 2B, 7A, and 7B; and original specification page 10, lines 25-40; page 11, lines 3-10; page 13, lines 17-27; page 18, lines 17-28; page 19, lines 12-40; page 24, lines 14-24; page 32, lines 25-32. No new matter has been added.

Upon entry of the enclosed claim amendments, claims 1-5 and 27-36 remain pending in the present application.

I. Response to Claim Rejections Based on Anticipation and Obviousness

Applicant invention allows for settings configured on each of multiple office devices to be incorporated into remote configurations due to it controlling operations of the device and not just controlling a single server or PBX for routing office communications. Staples discloses controlling operation of, the virtual presence server 106, a single device. Staples discloses controlling switching of communications directed to multiple devices but does not actually controlling operation of each device

itself. Applicant's claimed invention controls the operation of each device located at the user's Office and provides communication for instructions to and from the devices. This allows setting of each device to be used at the remote location. Staples requires the setting to be within a profile of the virtual presence server 106. Staples does not control the device but controls switching of communications to and from the device thus not providing the ability for settings of a device to be utilized by the remote user.

Applicant's specification recites, "although in many conventional telephone systems the programming information is stored in the PBX 216 and the telephone set 217A is a "dumb" telephone set, the present invention also contemplates that the telephone set 217A has a memory (not shown) in which programming information is independently stored. Examples of information that is typically programmed are speed dial numbers and call billing information so that the user only has to press one or few keys on the telephone set 217A in order to place a call to an outside party." Throughout the specification Applicant discloses controlling the operation of the office devices as opposed to controlling the access of the office devices as described by

Staples.

Beaton does not disclose controlling operation of devices. Beaton allows for the telecommunication device to communicate with other devices. This has little to do with controlling the other device. A standard telephone can communicate with multiple telephones and fax machines by dialing different numbers but it does not control the operation of the other telephones or fax machines. Beaton does not relate to the field of Applicant's invention. The office has not addressed this issue.

Beaton's disclosing the communicating with various device would not suggest to an individual skilled in the art at the time of the invention that the telephone of Beaton would be used to control other devices. Beaton provides no disclosure, teaching or suggestion of how the telephone would communicate with the other device in order to control the operation of the other device. The combination of Beaton with Staples also does not provide the necessary disclosure, teaching, or suggestion. Even if one were to agree with combining the teaching of Staples with Beaton, the combination would suggest the ability to route faxes and telephone calls not controlling the processing operations of the other device. Therefore, the pending claims should be allowed.


CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and rejections have been traversed, rendered moot and/or accommodated, and that presently pending claims 1-5 and 27-36 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and the presently pending claims are hereby courteously requested. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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